



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Southwestern Region
Forest Health
Arizona Zone Office

2500 S. Pine Knoll Drive
Flagstaff, AZ 86001-6381
FAX (928) 556-2130
Voice (928) 556-2073

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Route To:

Subject: 2001 Insect and Disease Aerial Detection Surveys, Coronado National Forest

To: Forest Supervisor, Coronado National Forest

The annual forest insect and disease aerial detection survey (ADS) was conducted over the Coronado NF August 23-24, 2001, by Arizona Zone Forest Health observers. Following is a summary of the results of this survey.

Ponderosa, Apache and Chihuahua pine mortality in the Pinaleno Mountains is at about the same levels as those detected in 2000. The mortality mapped is being caused by the complex of roundheaded pine beetle, *Dendroctonus adjunctus*; Mexican pine beetle, *Dendroctonus mexicanus*; western pine beetle, *Dendroctonus brevicomis*; and Southern pine beetle, *Dendroctonus frontalis*. Approximately 2,140 acres are affected, a slight decrease from 2000. Areas of notable interest include low elevation pine habitat on the north side of the Pinalenos and West Peak.

High levels of true fir and spruce mortality is occurring within the boundaries of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel refugium. The mortality is being caused by western balsam bark beetle, *Dryocoetes confusus*, and spruce beetle, *Dendroctonus rufipennis*. This began as defoliation, noted in our 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 surveys in the same area. Peripheral defoliation north of the refugium is due to *Nepytia janetea*, a geometrid moth. Additionally, many trees in this same area are now being impacted, resulting in mortality.

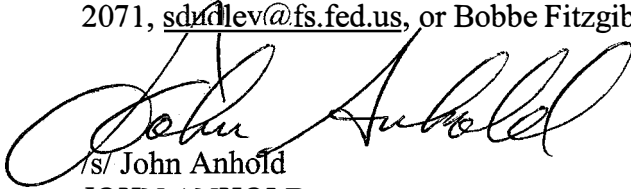
Mortality in Chihuahua pine and Apache pine is decreasing in the Chiricahua mountains. Approximately 484 acres of mortality were mapped in these areas, a significant decrease from 2000. This mortality is being caused by a complex of Mexican pine beetle; *Dendroctonus mexicanus*, roundheaded pine beetle, *Dendroctonus adjunctus*; western pine beetle, *Dendroctonus brevicomis*; and Southern pine beetle, *Dendroctonus frontalis*.

Fire damage and associated mortality remains significant this year. The residual trees remaining in the fire locations are potential sites for future bark beetle attacks. These sites will be monitored closely in the 2002 aerial surveys for signs of outbreak.

Upon availability, maps depicting conditions detected will be sent to appropriate Forest-level staff and Ranger District personnel. Electronic format copies of the spatial data are being forwarded to Forest GIS staff and are to be made available to Forest and District personnel for any projects they may be relevant to. Please advise District personnel via this letter of this availability.



If you have any questions concerning the survey, the information included here, or the availability of electronic maps or pest data, please feel free to contact Steve Dudley at (928) 556-2071, sdudley@fs.fed.us, or Bobbe Fitzgibbon at (928) 556-2072, bfitzgibbon@fs.fed.us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Anhold", written over the typed name.

/s/ John Anhold
JOHN ANHOLD
Arizona Zone Leader
Forest Health

cc:

llucero
dallenreid
dlparker01
sdudley
rsmith
blefevre